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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

January 8, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 9	Iowa Agr. Mobilization Committee	Des Moines
January 9	Minnesota Agr. Mobilization Committee	St. Paul
January 9-10	Hoosier Cooperative Clinic	Lafayette
January 12-16	National Egg Products Association School	Chicago
January 14	Michigan Agricultural Conference	E. Lansing
January 14-16	Indiana Horticultural Society	Indianapolis
January 14-16	American Seed Trade Association Mid-winter meeting	Cleveland
January 15-16	Michigan Insecticide & Fungicide Conference	E. Lansing
January 15-16	Poultry & Egg National Board, Annual Meeting	Chicago
January 15-16	South Dakota PMA Committeemen Meeting	Huron
January 16	Michigan Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lansing
January 16-17	Michigan Rural Health Conference	E. Lansing
January 19-20	Northwest Retail Feed Association	Minneapolis
January 19	Ohio Sheep Improvement Association	Columbus
January 20-22	Processors & Fieldmen's Conference	E. Lansing
January 22	Sugar Branch Meeting	Chicago
January 25	Indiana Grain & Feed Dealers Association	Indianapolis
January 26-30	United Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Association	Washington
January 26-30	Michigan Farmers Week	E. Lansing
January 27	Indiana Agr. Mobilization Committee	Indianapolis
January 27	Missouri Agr. Mobilization Committee	Columbia
January 29	Nebraska Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lincoln
January 30	American Dairy Association of Michigan	E. Lansing
January 30-31	Michigan Association of Soil Conservation District Directors	E. Lansing

Issued for ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY.

Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Production and Marketing Administration. 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Illinois.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Microfilming of fiscal and personnel records for security purposes completed in Brunswick building, Chicago. Work will start in State and Commodity offices soon. Offices will be notified of date of impending visit by Mrs. Ruth Ehrlich who will do the microfilming.

Arranging with Sherman Hotel, Chicago, for Sugar Branch meeting on January 22. Trade will attend.

AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

Mr. Pauley on general supervisory trip to State PMA Offices in Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky this week. Also sat in on conference of Ohio school lunch officials at Columbus.

W. D. Dahms of Kansas City has joined staff.

On school lunch and direct distribution audits: J. Hernandez and F. Neville, Michigan; T. Rhudy and M. Skilnik, Missouri.

N. Orlowski in Ohio on storage guarantee program audits.

CHICAGO USDA EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Four new directors to fill vacancies created by expiration of terms of Julius M. Boberski (CCC), Royce Dodge (Adm. Ser.) and resignations of Wilbur M. Brown (FCIC), and George C. Charlot (CCC) to be elected at meeting of members on Monday, January 12.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

Regular monthly meeting State Office representatives held January 8, earlier in month than usual for purpose of coordinating meeting with one by Grain Branch on hay program. Discussed status of warehouse approvals, subsequent warehouse examinations, and 1952 corn loan program, in addition to emergency hay program.

Grain storage agreements received as of January 5 totaled 979; approved, 760. Handling agreements received, 267; approved, 206.

Orders for hay from southern drought states as of January 5 totaled 537,130 tons; shipments 384,762 tons.

Marvin Smith attended instruction meeting on subsequent warehouse examinations at Decatur, January 7.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John Clagett, Chief

Four Ohio grain dealers convicted of "converting" CCC grain in Federal court at Toledo, December 29. Ward Walton fined \$6,000, Marion Ward and Russell Case \$2,000 each in decisions involving elevators at Richwood, Sycamore, and Upper Sandusky. Clarence Davis, Bryan, found guilty but put on suspended probation.

Agents in field this week: John J. Hickey, Kenneth K. King, William Aarnes, Halvor Oace, Minnesota; James Ramstad, Palmer Ellingson, Frank J. Zeglin, Iowa; Ralph Aiken, Nebraska; Fontaine Freeman, John Maloney, Martin Ryan, Missouri; Thomas Berry, Edward Nealon, James J. McLenighan, Illinois; Robert Coons, Michigan.

CROP INSURANCE - J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

Robert Zeller and Charles Pettengell attended Northeast Area PMA Regional meeting in New York, January 5-7.

Messrs. Buck, Zeller, Pettengell and Melvin Brandt in Washington January 8-9 for crop insurance conference.

DAIRY

Market News - Floyd Simpson, in Charge

Mr. Simpson and reporter Robert Nelson will attend as many sessions of National Egg Products Association School, to be held in Chicago January 12-16, as work permits.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar Beyer, Supervisor

Midwest field personnel on hand this week for annual meeting to review field operations.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Newcomers on the market this week include Florida potatoes and Michigan hot-house rhubarb. Best buys are cabbage, southern greens, radishes, root vegetables from storage, leaf lettuce, small Jonathan apples and southern citrus.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Gordon Mitchell, shipping point supervisor assigned to Wisconsin but headquartered at Chicago, will make supervisory trip to Wisconsin next week.

Herb Renfro to Springfield, Illinois, next week to meet new administration's State Department of Agriculture officials and to acquaint them with problems of inspection work.

Earl Biddick planning trip to Michigan, Minnesota, and North Dakota last two weeks of January.

Regulatory - W.A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

J. Branch in Winter Haven, Florida, on regulatory work for winter season.

Usual winter complaints beginning on "frozen bottoms" -- trade term for referring to bottom layer of produce which freezes in freight car enroute through cold areas.

INFORMATION - John C. Baker, Chief

Wall removed in office to create one large working space, provide 100 additional square feet of room and reduce number of steps necessary between old offices.

LIVESTOCK

Market News - L. M. Wyatt, In Charge

January 2 receipts of hogs at Chicago largest for a Friday in more than 15 years.

PERSONNEL - Maurice Ward, Chief

John Hays to Lincoln and Des Moines on January 7-8.

Walter Pospiech to Des Moines on January 8.

Harold Gross on special detail to San Francisco office; back around January 18.

POULTRY

Dressed Poultry Inspection - W. S. Buchanan, Supervisor

Dr. Buchanan in Arkansas this week on general supervisory trip and plant surveys.

Still recruiting inspectors in attempt to build up reserve personnel for expected pick-up in work after present slack season.

Inspection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson made surveys of egg-breaking plants in Rockford and Ioda, Illinois this week. Breaking season getting underway.

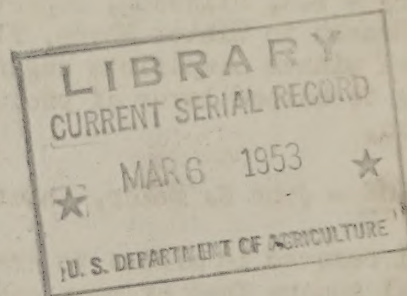
Dale Shear, Asst. Supervisor, to Mississippi, Arkansas, and Missouri this week on army poultry grading.

WASHINGTON VISITORS TO MIDWEST

Russell Childress, Marketing Facilities Branch, to Minneapolis, St. Paul, and other points in Minnesota to obtain data and study warehouse produce marketing facilities, January 4-31.

Gene Hall, Food Distribution Branch, to Chicago (also San Francisco and Dallas) to review obligation records and control, January 7-23.

Helendeen Dodderidge, to Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Columbia, Missouri, for conferences on food and agriculture problems, January 4-16.



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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

January 15, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 15-16	Michigan Insecticide & Fungicide Conference	E. Lansing
January 15-16	Custom Spray Operators School	E. Lansing
January 15-16	Poultry & Egg National Board, Annual Meeting	Chicago
January 15-16	South Dakota PMA Committeemen's Meeting	Huron
January 16	Michigan Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lansing
January 16-17	Michigan Rural Health Conference	E. Lansing
January 19-20	Northwest Retail Feed Association	Minneapolis
January 19	Ohio Sheep Improvement Association	Columbus
January 20-22	Processors & Fieldmen's Conference	E. Lansing
January 21-22	Veterinarians Post-Graduate Conference	E. Lansing
January 22	Sugar Branch Meeting	Chicago
January 25-27	Indiana Grain & Feed Dealers Assn.	Indianapolis
January 26-30	United Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Assn.	Washington
January 26-31	Michigan Farmers' Week	E. Lansing
January 27	Indiana Agr. Mobilization Committee	Indianapolis
January 27	Missouri Agr. Mobilization Committee	Columbia
January 27-28	Michigan Vegetable Growers Conference	E. Lansing
January 29	Nebraska Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lincoln
January 30	American Dairy Association of Michigan	E. Lansing
January 30-31	Michigan Association of Soil Conservation District Directors	E. Lansing
February 2-5	Training Conference for Refrigerated Warehouse Personnel	St. Louis
February 2-5	Illinois Farm and Home Week	Urbana

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Notable increase in automobile accidents, due to driving conditions normally found in Midwest at this season of year, reported to PMA Area Accident Board of Review, headed by Mr. Bender. Four accidents reported in one day. Drivers cautioned to exercise greater care to avoid personal injury to themselves and others as well as damage to government property.

Mrs. Ruth Erlich, Records Management Assistant, in Minneapolis and St. Paul this week microfilming records for security purposes.

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AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

O. W. Salisbury, Washington office, to Chicago January 15-16 to discuss audit of Commodity Office transportation activities.

L. O. Lehman, in charge, R. Buskirk, H. Schump, and H. Parke auditing at state and county PMA offices in Kentucky.

R. Chaffin started audit of PMA county offices in Indiana.

N. Orlowski auditing commercial elevators under storage guarantee program in Ohio and Kentucky.

H. Janzig auditing grading and inspection offices in and around Chicago.

School lunch and direct distribution audits: T. Vopatek, Minnesota; F. Neville, J. Hernandez, Michigan; T. Rhudy, M. Skilnik, Missouri.

CHICAGO USDA EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Newly elected officers for 1953: President, C. E. Sullivan (CCC); Vice-President, Edward W. Koenig (CCC); Treasurer, Ceal C. Thinnes (CCC); Assistant Treasurer, Edna L. (Betty) Thompson (CCC); Secretary, Dolores G. Lange, Personnel. New directors elected to fill vacancies created by expiration of terms and resignations: Edna L. (Betty) Thompson (CCC) 3 year term; John P. Janus (Food Distribution) 2 year term; John F. Farrell (CCC) 3 year term; Robert C. Robinette, (FCIC) 3 year term.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George Bradley, Director

M. R. Livingston to New York January 22-23 to attend meeting of Washington officials and selected representatives from Commodity Offices regarding improvement in internal methods for handling claims in CO offices.

Orders for hay from drought states, as of January 13, totaled 542,106 tons, compared with shipments of approximately 380,627 tons.

Elmer F. Kruse, Assistant Administrator for Commodity Operations, Washington, resigned to take up farming in Ohio.

CO offices, nationally, last week sold 63,467 bus. wheat; 881,456 bus. corn; 26,596 bus. barley; 1,129 cwt. edible dry beans; 5,819 cwt. Austrian winter peas; 60 lbs. clover seed.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John W. Clagett, Chief

Maurice Stickgold in Kansas City conferring with special agent regarding investigations in Missouri. Also recruiting personnel.

Kenneth King testified in Denver, Edward Nealon in Detroit regarding investigations made by them.

Palmer Ellingson conferred with U. S. Attorney in Cincinnati regarding investigations to be made.

Other agents in field this week included William Aarnes, John Hickey, Minnesota; Alexander Gibbon, Frank Zeglin, Iowa; Lee Coons, Ohio; Theodore Stone, James J. McLenighan, Illinois.

CROP INSURANCE - J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

Tom R. Daniel, Fiscal Accountant, transferring to Dallas Commodity Office, Reports there January 26.

Mr. Buck on sick list this week.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar F. Beyer, Supervisor

Jack Means and Jeanette Hampton in Iowa on school lunch and direct distribution review.

Hal Bolin participating in school lunch and food preservation workshop in Charleston, Illinois

John James to Springfield, Illinois next week to conduct administrative analysis of direct distribution agency. Clair Underwood and Ina Morris to Lansing, Michigan for same purpose.

Mr. Beyer and Walter Patterson to attend Poultry and Egg National Board meeting in Chicago on Friday.

Howard Davis, Washington, designated Deputy Director of Branch to fill position recently vacated by James Hoofnagle. Sam Vanneman named Chief of Civilian Food Supply Division.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Best buys at wholesale market this week: Tangerines, southern oranges, and grapefruit, cabbage, celery, southern greens, spinach, leaf lettuce, radishes, new crop turnips, and topped vegetables from storage. More new crop carrots, topped and packaged in cellophane bags for retail sale, being received than ever before.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Herbert Renfro attended Horticultural Society Meeting at Rock Island, Illinois Thursday.

Regulatory - W. A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

Federal produce license of Sam Petro, operator of Sam Petro Tomato Company, Houston, Texas suspended for failure to pay for two carloads Mexican tomatoes bought from Frank Kenworthy Company, Kansas City, Mo.

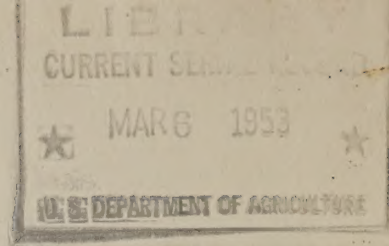
INFORMATION - John C. Baker, Chief

Sending news stories to all school lunch supervisors on amounts of food supplied to school lunch programs in Midwest states.

Also sending series of stories to farm papers and trade papers, reviewing plentiful foods programs for 1952.

Prepared article on PMA's experience in maintenance of grain bins for Agricultural Leaders' Digest.

Received complete set of latest agricultural census books covering each of 48 states, county by county.



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LIVESTOCK

Market News - L. M. Wyatt, In Charge

Chicago receipts of over 25,000 cattle on Monday largest since 1946 when removal of price ceilings prompted big movement of supplies to market.

Harry Reed, Branch Chief, and Fred J. Beard, head of Standardization and Grading Division, were visitors on January 8 enroute to Washington from cattle feeders' meeting in Kansas City.

Number of cattle on feed in United States on January 1 largest on record and 16 percent over year earlier. Sheep and lambs on feed 7 percent fewer than year ago.

PERSONNEL - Maurice P. Ward, Chief

Mr. Ward and Simon Levka visited PMA state office at Lincoln, Nebraska early in week. Ward later attended South Dakota PMA Committeemen meeting at Huron.

POULTRY

Inspection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson visited egg-breaking plants in southwestern Illinois this week.

WASHINGTON VISITORS TO MIDWEST

James Mixon, Marketing Facilities Branch, to points throughout Michigan and Illinois (also Penn., N.Y., N.J.) to study assembly operations and obtain various information about frozen food distribution, January 11-25.

N. D. Beers and H. E. Earp, Transportation and Warehousing Branch, to Chicago to assist in inspection of licensed warehouses in Indianapolis area, January 12-16.

Roy Murphy, Food Distribution Branch, to Des Moines to make test of survey form in connection with school lunch research work; also to Chicago to visit area office, January 11-21.

James A. Hutchins, Jr., Food Distribution Branch, to Kansas City (also Atlanta, Dallas) to make administrative analysis January 12-26.

V. H. Nicholson and N. C. Healy, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, to Chicago January 15-16 to attend meeting of representatives of North Central Agricultural Experiment Stations meeting called to plan regional marketing research on vegetables for 1953-54.

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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

January 22, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 25-27	Indiana Grain & Feed Dealers Assn.	Indianapolis
January 26-30	United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Assn.	Washington
January 26-31	Michigan Farmers Week	E. Lansing
January 26-27	Vegetable Processors' Conference	Columbus, O.
January 27	Indiana Agr. Mobilization Committee	Indianapolis
January 27	Missouri Agr. Mobilization Committee	Columbia
January 27-28	Michigan Vegetable Growers Conference	E. Lansing
January 27-28	National Dairy Council	Columbus, O.
January 27-28	Ohio Cattle Feeders' Assn.	Columbus
January 29	Nebraska Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lincoln
January 29-31	National Association of Wheat Growers	Omaha
January 30	American Dairy Assoc. of Michigan	E. Lansing
January 30-31	Michigan Assoc. of Soil Conservation Dist. Directors	E. Lansing
February 2-5	Training Conference for Refrigerated Warehouse Personnel	St. Louis
February 2-5	Illinois Farm and Home Week	Urbana
February 3-5	National Assoc. Soil Conservation Districts	Omaha
February 3-6	Annual Winter Conference, Dept. of Dairy Technology, O.S.U.	Columbus
February 4-5	Iowa Turkey Federation	Des Moines
February 5-7	Aerial Spray Operators Short Course	Lincoln
February 9	Hoosier Cooperative Clinic	W. Lafayette
February 10-12	Michigan Allied Dairy Assn.	Grand Rapids
February 11-13	North Central States Institute Poultry & Egg Conference	Omaha
February 12	Illinois Agr. Mobilization Committee	Decatur
February 13	Poultry & Egg Processing Equipment Meeting	Kansas City
February 14-17	Institute of American Poultry Industries	Kansas City.

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AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

Auditor R. E. Harwick, Lt. Col. in Army Reserves, on military leave next two weeks.

L. O. Lehman, in charge, R. M. Baskirk and H. B. Parke completing audit of Kentucky State and County PMA offices this week.

Audit of County PMA offices in Indiana continuing under R. G. Chaffin, H. T. Schump.

N. Orlowski completing audits of commercial elevators under storage guarantee program in Kentucky.

School lunch and direct distribution audits: F. Neville, Michigan; M. Skilnik, T. Rhudy, Missouri; T. Vopatek, Minnesota; J. Hernandez, Michigan.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Mrs. Ruth Ehrlich microfilmed records in Omaha, Tuesday; Lincoln, Wednesday. Later itinerary Kansas City, Columbia, and Des Moines.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

Marvin Smith to Washington January 28-29 for meeting of Livestock Branch, Commodity Office representatives and wool handlers on 1953 wool handling agreement.

As of January 16, 1,032 grain storage agreements received; 841 approved; handling agreements received 290; approved 234.

Orders for hay from southern drought states as of January 20 totaled 543,017 bushels; shipments approximately 409,000 tons.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John Clagett, Chief

Investigators working mainly on grain conversion cases. International Wheat Agreement subsidy claims and producer loan matters.

Agents in field this week: Ralph Aiken, Thomas Berry, Robert Coons, Nebraska; Harry Covington, Iowa; Fontaine Freeman, Martin Ryan, John Maloney, Missouri; Edward Nealon, Illinois; Halvor Oace, James Ramstad, North Dakota.

M. D. Shutes, Schoolcraft, Michigan; pleaded guilty January 12 to illegally converting over 36,000 bushels of CCC owned grain. Sentence to be imposed January 26.

DAIRY

Milk Market Orders

Following uniform prices paid during December to producers supplying Midwest markets under Federal milk market orders:

Columbus, Ohio	\$4.58	Greater Kansas City	\$5.35
Dubuque	4.49	Dayton-Springfield, Ohio	4.58
Cleveland	5.03	St. Louis	5.78
Chicago	4.41		

Two Wisconsin dairies have asked federal court to review proceedings of USDA hearing in which Milwaukee federal milk order was challenged. Complaint also asks court to rule marketing order illegal.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar F. Beyer, Supervisor

Roy Murphy, Washington head of School Lunch Division, was visitor on Tuesday.

Hal Bolin to Indiana next week for school lunch and food preservation workshop.

Foods expected in plentiful supply in Midwest during February: Cabbage, raisins, fresh and processed oranges, fresh and processed grapefruit, carrots, lettuce, domestic dried figs, almonds, filberts, walnuts, peanuts and peanut butter, dry baby lima and pea beans, frozen fish, turkeys, eggs, butter, cheddar cheese, cottage cheese, nonfat dry milk solids, buttermilk, margarine, lard, vegetable shortening and salad oils.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, in Charge

Supplies of cabbage, lettuce and celery top-heavy this week, selling below cost of production, packing, and shipping. Other good buys: leaf lettuce, southern greens, radishes, spinach, southern tangerines and oranges, and whitemeat grapefruit. Potatoes and onions continue high priced.

Regulatory - W. A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

Handling quite a few "short weight" complaints.

Edward Gibson planning trip to points in Illinois, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia. Expects to leave next week.

Fresh Products Inspection

Gordon Mitchell continuing supervisory work in Wisconsin this week.

Earl Biddick working with supervisor in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Herb Renfro in southern Illinois conferring with state department officials on inspection work.

Processed Products Inspection - Max Austin, Supervisor

Sending 2 more inspectors to Florida, 1 to Texas for winter inspection work.

D. A. Patton to Ames, Iowa on January 27 to discuss inspection work with group of canners.

Erma Kyhos, clerk-steno taking Army position in Alaska.

GRAIN - Hazen P. English, Field Supervisor

R. C. Mill, in charge of enforcement section, presented government evidence in hearing on incorrect grading of four cars of wheat loaded from Fort Worth, Texas, elevator.

Mr. English to Denver, Sioux City and Omaha on field supervisory trip this week.

INFORMATION - John C. Baker, Chief

Midwest Market Basket being sent airmail each week to New York advertising agency to provide information for network radio program.

February list of Plentiful Foods with background on supply distributed to food editors and broadcasters.

Arranged for Wall Street Journal reporter interested in doing story on farm production to visit Missouri state PMA office.

Midwest Market Basket this week emphasizes to consumers big supplies and low prices of lettuce, cabbage and celery now being received from Florida, Texas, Arizona, California.

LIVESTOCK

Market News - L. M. Wyatt, In Charge

Several new outbreaks of VE disease in west coast receipts of hogs from Midwest reported. Some reports indicate possibly 5,000 hogs detained in California.

Prices down sharply this week on grades of steers providing most beef in midwest butcher shops.

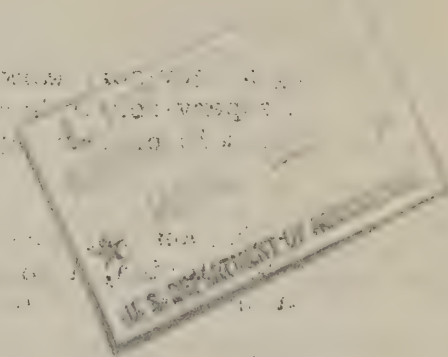
PERSONNEL - Maurice P. Ward, Chief

To permit prompter action on employee suggestions, efficiency awards committees in State Offices, Commodity Offices, and other offices authorized by Central Committee, may now grant cash awards up to \$50.00. Central Committee may grant awards up to \$100.00. Amounts over \$100.00 submitted by Central Committee to Department Committee for consideration.

POULTRY

Inspection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson to Michigan next week for check on grading activities.



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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

January 29, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 29-31	National Association of Wheat Growers	Omaha
January 30	American Dairy Association of Michigan	E. Lansing
January 30-31	Michigan Association of Soil Conservation District Directors	E. Lansing
February 2-4	Indiana Dairy Products Assn.	Indianapolis
February 2-5	Indiana Cannery-Fieldmen Conference	W. Lafayette
February 2-5	Training Conference for Refrigerated Warehouse Personnel	St. Louis
February 2-5	U. of Illinois Farm and Home Week	Urbana
February 3-5	Natl. Assn. Soil Conservation Districts	Omaha
February 3-6	Dairy Technology Conference	Columbus
February 4-5	Iowa Turkey Federation	Des Moines
February 5-7	Aerial Spray Operators Short Course	Lincoln
February 9-10	Hoosier Cooperative Clinic	W. Lafayette
February 10-12	Michigan Allied Dairy Assn.	Grand Rapids
February 11	Ohio Wool Growers' Annual Meeting	Columbus
February 11-12	Annual Indiana Turkey Trot Program	W. Lafayette
February 11-13	North Central States Institute Poultry and Egg Conference	Omaha
February 12	Illinois Agr. Mobilization Committee	Decatur
February 13	Iowa Agr. Mobilization Committee	Des Moines
February 13	Minnesota Agr. Mobilization Committee	St. Paul
February 13	Poultry & Egg Processing Equipment Meeting	Kansas City
February 14-17	Institute of American Poultry Industries	Kansas City
February 15-17	Natl. Assn. Retail Grocers	Chicago
February 17-20	Natl. American Wholesale Grocers Assn.	Chicago
February 17-18	Soil Fertility Conference	Vincennes, Ind.
February 17-19	Seed Growers School	Columbus
February 17-20	F. & V. Processed Inspection Officers	Chicago

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Annette C. Schnell received "outstanding" performance rating and citation for work in field of procurement and property management.

Miss Schnell to Kansas City to confer with General Services Administration on procurement and property management problems and to visit PMA offices in area.

Mrs. Ruth Ehrlich in Kansas City Tuesday to microfilm personnel and fiscal records.

Mr. Bender, officials of General Services Administration and USDA Office of Plant and Operations conferred in Springfield, Illinois this week on prospective alterations in new Post Office Building as site for consolidation of USDA offices.

Discontinuing leased wire drop in Chicago Dairy Inspection and Grading Office, New Post Office Building.

AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

R. J. Halligan and R. G. Chaffin to Washington for discussions regarding legal action against dried egg processor.

H. A. Janzig to Ohio for audit of commercial elevator under Storage Guarantee Program.

Audit of Indiana State PMA Office and related county offices still in progress. Conducted by R. M. Buskirk, H. B. Parke, H. T. Schump and N. Orlowski.

School lunch and direct distribution audits: T. Vopatek, M. Skilnik, Minnesota; F. Neville, South Dakota; T. Rhudy, Missouri; J. Hernandez, Michigan.

L. O. Lehman on audit of American Baking Institute under research contract.

CHICAGO COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

Shipments of hay to southern farmers by county PMA committees participating in emergency hay relief program moving at fastest rate since program started last August. Shipments from Midwest to date total more than 438,000 tons. Comparatively few new orders for hay being received from southern states; total orders to date, 543,000 tons. Approximately 670 tons of hay ordered from Canadian dealers during past few days.

Commodity Office last week sold 1,176,159 bushels of corn, 428 bushels of wheat; bought 4,029,963 pounds of butter, 232,332 pounds of cheese, and 917,815 pounds nonfat dry milk solids.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John W. Clagett, Chief

Agents in field this week: R. Aiken, T. Berry, Nebraska; R. Coons, H. Covington, Iowa; P. Ellingson, Indiana; J. Maloney, F. Freeman, T. Ryan, Missouri; J. Ramstad, North Dakota; H. Oace, Minnesota; S. Norin, Ohio.

CROP INSURANCE - J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

Fred B. Northrup, Assistant Manager of FCIC, Washington, visited Chicago office Tuesday.

Personnel changes: Tom Daniel, cashier, to PMA Commodity Office in Dallas. Oliver Parsons promoted to cashier. Robert O'Hagen succeeds Mr. Parsons as assistant cashier.

Staff sending out bills on policies covering winter wheat.

DAIRY

Inspection and Grading - Edward Small, Supervisor

Mr. Small on sick list. Inspection staff reduced by flu.

Inspecting butter bought by CCC as part of price support program for dairy products. Most butter packed in 64-pound boxes; containers and butter must be examined; butter inspected for grade and weight. Inspectors also will re-examine butter already purchased by CCC which is being repackaged in one-pound cartons for school lunch distribution. Repackaging contract for 5,760,000 pounds awarded to Manawa, Wis., firm Tuesday.

Laboratory - Dr. T. I. Hedrick, Supervisor

Mrs. Norma Bradshaw and Miss Betty Smith have joined staff as laboratory aides; Mrs. Eddie Addy, new office worker. Laboratory making routine tests of dry skim milk and cheese bought by CCC for price support. Milk powder tested for acidity, flavor, sediment, fat, moisture, and bacteria. Cheese tested for solids content.

Milk Market Administrator - A. W. Colebank, Chicago Administrator

Milk production increasing earlier than usual this year as result of mild winter, abundance of feed in Midwest, less culling of cows from herds due to low prices of dairy animals sold as beef.

John J. Million named acting administrator of South Bend-LaPorte order. Succeeds Ralph H. Plummer who died recently.

Uniform prices per hundredweight paid to producers for milk during December:

Sioux Falls-Mitchell	\$4.77
Sioux City	4.64
Omaha-Lincoln-	
Council Bluffs	5.26
South Bend-LaPorte	5.19
Fort Wayne	4.49

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar F. Beyer, Supervisor

Mr. Beyer to Madison, Wisconsin latter half of week, conferring with state officials on problems of direct distribution of foods.

Jeanette Hampton, nutritionist, will participate in School Lunch workshop at Green Lake, Wisconsin, Friday.

Hal Bolin, food preservation specialist, participating in School Lunch workshop in Indiana this week. Will appear on television program, "Farm Town, U.S.A." on Station WBKB, Channel 4, Chicago, Saturday evening, demonstrating method of boning ham used in School Lunch program.

Ina Morris and John Janus in Springfield this week, making annual administrative analysis of state School Lunch activity.

Host this week to Dr. Moukhtor El Sherif, from Cairo, Egypt. Dr. Sherif is Assistant Controller of School Hygiene in Egyptian Ministry of Education. Reports schools in Egypt provide lunches and health examinations for all children in school.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Marketing Office - R. E. Keller, In Charge

Delegation of potato growers from Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota in Chicago this week, to visit markets, packaging plants, washing plants, and other establishments related to marketing of potato crop.

Processed Products Inspection - Max Austin, Supervisor

Staff at several points engaged in inspection of canned and frozen products for military.

One grapefruit juice canning plant in Lower Valley of Texas has resumed operations, first in two years since freeze damaged citrus plantings.

Inspectors at Laredo, Texas, ready to inspect frozen strawberries, grown and processed in Mexico.

Strawberry growers in Louisiana have increased acreage this year, anticipating larger demand because strawberry plantings in Arkansas and Tennessee seriously damaged by last year's drought. Louisiana plants can be set out in November and produce crop following spring, while berries farther north must grow year before producing crop.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Mr. Sanborn leaves next week on three-week trip to Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, visiting inspectors and supervisors, state marketing officials; will attend Marketing Clinic for members of produce trade at Dallas, February 6 and 7, to familiarize trade with USDA market services.

Earl Biddick, Assistant Supervisor, will attend meeting of Indiana canners, fieldmen, and growers at Purdue University, West Lafayette, next week.

Increasing number of rejections of potatoes for poor quality. Volume of potato shipments down, attributed to uncertainties in prices.

Regulatory Division - W. A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

First of new potatoes from Florida arrived in Chicago. Numerous rejections of lettuce shipments because of poor quality.

Edward Gibson leaving on four-week trip through Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, investigating applicants for PACA licenses.

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Best buys this week are lettuce, celery, and cabbage. Plenty of those three salad vegetables at very low prices. Other good buys are topped carrots, southern greens, parsley, radishes, and spinach. Honeydew melons newly arrived from South America. Onion prices high, potatoes declining.

GRAIN - Hazen English, Field Director

Mr. English returned this week from visits to grain inspectors and supervisors in Denver, Omaha, and Sioux City.

Theodore Rampi of Minneapolis Inspection Office, in Chicago this week, working on problems of inspection equipment.

Harold Westbrook, of Omaha inspection office, working with Board of Grain Supervisors, on review of inspections and appeals cases.

E. A. Shaw, of Board of Grain Supervisors, visiting inspectors in Fort Worth, Galveston, Wichita, Enid, and Kansas City.

INFORMATION - John Baker, Chief

Doreen Hill joined Information Office staff this week, transferring from Wage Stabilization Board.

Special Plentiful Foods fact sheet on celery, lettuce, cabbage sent to women broadcasters, food editors, home economists who receive Midwest Market Basket to encourage consumption of those vegetables, now flooding Midwest markets. Production coming from California, Arizona, Florida.

Radio and television food broadcasters receiving Midwest Market Basket were asked this week to report on Plentiful Food items used during January.

LIVESTOCK

Market News - L. M. Wyatt, In Charge

Beef supplies in excess of demand, prices generally lower. General average of steer and heifer prices at St. Paul reported at lowest point since early 1949. Other markets report similar low levels.

PERSONNEL - Maurice P. Ward, Chief

Simon Levka to South Dakota State PMA Office on classification and organization matters.

POULTRY

Inspection Service - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson in Michigan this week, visiting egg packing and poultry dressing plants at several points.

Staff engaged in inspecting turkeys purchased for School Lunch program, and in grading eggs involved in trading on Mercantile Exchange.

WASHINGTON VISITORS

N. D. Beers and H. E. Earp, Transportation and Warehousing Branch, inspecting warehouses in area supervised by Indianapolis T&W office, this week.

Harold D. Johnson, Marketing and Facilities Branch, conferring with refrigerated motor truck operators in Missouri and Illinois.

1. The first part of the report
describes the general situation
of the country and the
state of the economy.

2. The second part of the report
describes the results of the
survey and the findings of the
research.

3. The third part of the report
describes the conclusions of the
research and the recommendations
for further action.

4. The fourth part of the report
describes the conclusions of the
research and the recommendations
for further action.

5. The fifth part of the report
describes the conclusions of the
research and the recommendations
for further action.

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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

February 12, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 13	Iowa Agr. Mobilization Committee	Des Moines
February 13	Minnesota Agr. Mobilization Committee	St. Paul
February 13	Poultry and Egg Processing Equipment Meeting	Kansas City
February 14-17	Institute of American Poultry Industries	Kansas City
February 16-18	Ohio Dairy Products Association	Cleveland
February 15-17	National Assoc. Retail Grocers	Chicago
February 16-20	Food Distribution Branch, Area Supervisors Conference	Washington
February 17-18	Soil Fertility Conference	Vincennes, Ind.
February 17-18	Indiana Certified Seed Growers' Annual Conference	W. Lafayette
February 17-19	Seed Growers' School	Columbus
February 17-20	Nat'l American Wholesale Grocers Association	Chicago
February 17-20	F. & V. Processed Inspection Officers	Chicago
February 19-20	Midwest Feed Manufacturers Assn.	Kansas City
February 19-20	Nebraska Reclamation Assoc. & Nebraska State Irrigation Assoc.	Kearney
February 19	Chicago C.O. State Office Representatives	Chicago
February 20	Michigan Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lansing
February 20	Midwest Soil Improvement Conference	Chicago
February 20-21	National Farm Institute	Des Moines
February 20-21	Minnesota Turkey Growers Assn.	Minneapolis
February 21-23	National Food Brokers Assn.	Chicago
February 21-25	National Cannery Assoc.	Chicago
February 21-26	National American Wholesale Grocers Assn.	Chicago
February 23	Ohio Broiler Conference	Columbus

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Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Production and Marketing Administration. 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Illinois.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Mrs. Ruth Ehrlich to Ohio PMA State Office to arrange for transfer of records to GSA's Chicago Federal Records Center.

AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

John F. McShea and Albert E. Smith, Washington office, and R. G. Blixt, Minneapolis representative, visited to make detailed plans for CCC balance sheet audit ordered by Secretary.

R. E. Harwich to Wichita to testify at grain conversion trial.

Francis Lisowski added to staff as Administrative Assistant, transferring from warehouse examiner position in Chicago Commodity Office.

Continuing audits:

Indiana County PMA Offices; H. T. Schump, R. M. Buskirk, H. A. Parker, N. Orlowski, R. G. Chaffin.

Wisconsin Grading and Inspection Offices: H. A. Janzig
Cooperative Agreement with State of Michigan, Fruit and Vegetable
Inspection: L. O. Lehman

School Lunch and Direct Distribution; M. Burrows, T. Rhudy, Missouri;
T. Vopatek, Illinois; J. Hernandez, Michigan; F. Neville, Nebraska;
M. Skilnik, Minnesota.

Most other audit activity expected to be temporarily discontinued by March 1, so all possible personnel can be concentrated on special CCC audit.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

In keeping with new policy of CCC, corn will be sold on open market only when definitely below Grade 5 in quality, or when no commercial storage is available. State and county PMA committees must provide evidence of serious deterioration in quality or unsuitability of storage structures before Commodity Office provides orders to ship grain from bins for sale.

Government of South Africa has ordered several million bushels of top quality corn for use as human food. CCC corn being ordered from country elevators, with best being shipped to South Africa. Grades 3, 4, and 5 being stored in terminal warehouses if possible, only lowest grade corn being sold.

Chicago CO sales last week: 1,326,863 bushels of corn, 3,960 pounds of clover seed. Purchases: 2,603,062 pounds of butter, 59,591 pounds of cheese, 1,033,850 pounds of dry milk solids.

Additional \$1,500,000 allocated for continued operation emergency hay program brings total to \$9,500,000. Hay orders from drought states as of Feb. 11, totaled 543,000 tons; shipments approx. 542,000 tons.

More than 170,000,000 bushels 1952-crop corn put under price support nationally through January 15; wheat, 376,430,000 bushels.

Marcus Daly, Chief, Field Operations Division, attended 50th Annual Convention of Farmers-Grain Dealers' Association at Peoria February 11-12.

Marvin Smith to Washington Wednesday for two-day wool meeting.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John W. Clagett, Chief

Agents in field this week: R. Aiken, R. Coons, Iowa; T. Berry, H. Covington, E. Nealon, Nebraska; F. Freeman, M. Ryan, Missouri; S. Norin, Michigan, H. Oace, South Dakota; J. Ramstad, North Dakota.

CROP INS

J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

George Pickot, liaison representative between Chicago and Washington office, headquarters Washington, was visitor this week.

Factual information on crop insurance furnished to American Peoples Encyclopedia.

DAIRY

Milk Market Orders

USDA decided against four proposals to change Springfield, Missouri order. Major proposal would have made price of milk for bottling not less than St. Louis price most of year.

Laboratory - Dr. T. I. Hedrick, Supervisor

January issue Milk Plant Monthly featured article by Dr. Hedrick on increased use of laboratory facilities in the dairy plants.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar F. Beyer, Supervisor

Mr. Beyer to Washington next week to attend FDB Area Supervisors' conference, February 16-20.

John Janus and Jeanette Hampton to South Dakota next week to make administrative analysis of direct distribution and school lunch programs.

Received allocation of 4,772,000 pounds of butter for distribution to Midwest school lunch programs and other eligible institutions. Butter purchased by USDA under dairy price support program.

Allocated additional 1,490,000 pounds of turkeys to Midwest states for distribution to school lunch and other institutions. Final allocation.

Leo Smith, formerly of Dallas FDB office, joined staff this week in line with previous personnel commitment.

Albert Duke, Food Trades Section, Washington, was visitor in connection with forthcoming raisin promotion.

Beef added to list of foods expected in plentiful supply in Midwest during March. Other plentiful: Carrots, fresh and processed oranges, fresh and processed grapefruit, raisins, cabbage, honey, dry lima and Pea beans, eggs, turkeys, frozen fish fillets, butter, cheddar cheese, nonfat dry milk solids, cottage cheese, buttermilk, margarine, vegetable shortening, lard, salad oils, peanuts, and peanut butter.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Best buys on wholesale market this week: Cabbage, topped vegetables from storage, radishes, and parsnips. Old crop potatoes moderately priced, new ones still high. Texas Triumph potatoes and California asparagus first-of-season arrivals, asparagus arriving by air.

Processed Products Inspection - Max Austin, Supervisor

Conference of officers in charge of Central District inspection offices and Washington representatives to be held Chicago, February 17-20, to review inspection procedures and prepare for coming season.

Regulatory - W. A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

On field license work: Edward Gibson, Tennessee; J. Branch, Florida.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Mr. Sanborn due back February 23 from extended trip through Texas.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES cont'd

Marketing Programs - R. E. Keller, In Charge

Mr. Keller attended Ohio Horticultural Society meeting in Columbus, last week.

Finishing work in connection with required set-aside of 1952 pack fruits and vegetables for Quartermaster Corps.

INFORMATION - John C. Baker, Chief

Completed survey of use of Plentiful Food items by radio and television broadcasters during month of January.

Office has received special census report listing 100 leading counties in production of each major agricultural commodity. Los Angeles country, California, leading agricultural county in value of all products sold in 1949. Cherry county, Nebraska, leads in value of cattle on farms and in hay acreage; Henry county, Illinois, leading hog raising county; McLean county, Illinois, leading corn producer; Otter Tail county, Minnesota, leads in oats production; Champaign county, Illinois, leads in soybean production.

Midwest farm papers sent report on progress of hay shipping program from Midwest into southern drought area.

LIVESTOCK

Meat Grading - Russell Hitz, Supervisor

New grade stamp in form of shield enclosing name of USDA and grade now identifies all federally graded beef, veal, calf, lamb, and mutton. Stamp applied in ribbon form entire length of carcass so grade appears on various cuts. Replaces former ribbon-like stamp which included grade name and, at intervals, USDA, but no shield. Unauthorized use of new stamp prohibited by law, protection not provided previously. Compulsory grading ended with lifting of OPS meat ceilings and now on voluntary basis. Grading service available to all slaughtering plants operating under Federal Meat Inspection Service and to such other plants as operate under inspection system approved by USDA. Thus, Federal grade stamp will appear only on meat passed through an adequate meat inspection system.

Market News - L. M. Wyatt, In Charge

Rarity: Load of steers received by truck from Anna, Texas; distance 970 miles; cattle shrank 60 pounds per head enroute, brought \$25 per hundred-weight against estimated Texas value of \$21. Shipper returned to Texas with load of oats.

PERSONNEL - Maurice P. Ward, Chief

Reduction-in-Force notices sent to approximately 115 meat graders in Midwest area, due to ending of compulsory meat grading and OPS price controls on meat.

Meetings being held in Washington to determine possibility of obtaining exceptions to personnel freeze order contained in Secretary's Memorandum No. 1322. Order provides no vacancy be filled without approval of Secretary, although personnel shifts permitted within agencies of Department. No hiring of new employees after February 5 unless commitments previously made.

POULTRY

Insepection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson to attend Fact-Finding Conference of Institute of American Poultry Industries in Kansas City, February 14-17. Washington branch officials in attendance to include W. R. Termohlen, H. G. Hamann, M. W. Buster, and E. H. Matzen, all of whom expected to spend Thursday in Chicago enroute to conference.

Still grading few turkeys under surplus removal program.

Dressed Poultry Inspection - W. S. Buchanan, Supervisor

Dr. Buchanan to attend Fact-Finding Conference, Institute of American Poultry Industries, Kansas City, February 14-17. Will make supervisory visits in Louisville enroute back to Chicago.

Dr. A. B. Kincaid, Assistant Supervisor, on supervisory trip to plants in Rose City, Missouri, and Quincy, Illinois this week.



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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

February 26, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 27	Nebraska Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lincoln
February 27 to		
March 1	Minnesota Poultry, Butter and Egg Assn.	Minneapolis
March 1-4	Natl. Assn. Frozen Food Packers	Chicago
March 1-3	Natl. Preservers Assn.	Chicago
March 3-4	Kansas City Commodity Office State Meeting	Kansas City
March 5	Television Meeting, Chicago USDA Officials	Chicago
March 7-14	National 4-H Club Week	
March 9-10	Food Distributors Short Course	W. Lafayette, Ind.
March 12	Illinois Agr. Mobilization Committee	Decatur
March 13	Iowa Agr. Mobilization Committee	Des Moines
March 13	Minnesota Agr. Mobilization Committee	St. Paul
March 14	South Dakota Potato Growers Assn.	Watertown
March 16-20	Natl. Short Course, Transportation Losses of Perishables	W. Lafayette, Ind.
March 16-17	1953 Farm Forum	Minneapolis
March 17-18	Pest Control Operators Assn. of America	E. Lansing
March 17	Spring Barrow & Ton Litter Show (on Food Show)	Indianapolis
March 20	Michigan Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lansing
March 21	Spring Barrow & Ton Litter Show (Carcass Show)	Indianapolis
March 22-24	American Dairy Assn.	Chicago
March 22-28	Indiana Soil Conservation Week	
March 23-25	Short Course for Food Retailers	Chicago
March 24-27	Ohio Farm and Home Week	Columbus
March 26-27	Minneapolis Commodity Office- State Meeting	Minneapolis
March 24	Indiana Agr. Mobilization Committee	Indianapolis
March 24	Missouri Agr. Mobilization Committee	Columbus
March 24-25	Conference on Insect & Rodent Control for Sanitarians	W. Lafayette, Ind.
March 26-27	Agricultural Clinic, Indiana Bankers Assn.	W. Lafayette

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Production and Marketing Administration. 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Illinois.**

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Mr. Bender and Annette Schnell attended Kansas City meeting of federal agencies held by General Services Administration February 25, to discuss GSA procedures, regulations etc.

Microfilming of PMA records for security purposes completed except in states of Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. Work conducted by Mrs. Ruth Ehrlich.

AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

On special CCC audit ordered by Secretary: F. J. Pauchnik, Montana; D. A. Bussey, L. J. Edstrom, Wisconsin; R. G. Blixt, R. M. Buskirk, Minneapolis; L. O. Lehman, H. Schump, H. Parke, R. G. Chaffin, Iowa; R. E. Harwick, R. J. Halligan, W. Dahms, Chicago.

N. Orlowski on audits of commercial elevators under storage guarantee program in Iowa and Illinois.

H. A. Janzig completed audits of grading and inspection offices in Minneapolis area. Starting storage guarantee audits in Ohio and Kentucky.

School lunch and direct distribution audits: F. Neville, T. Rhudy, Missouri; M. Skilnik, Minnesota; T. Vopatek, Illinois; J. Hernandez, Michigan.

Harry Reames left staff for post with insurance firm in his home town of Des Moines.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

New policy calls for purchasing moderate amounts of new crop corn to compensate for any necessary sales of corn in danger of deterioration. New corn to be purchased on open market will be in addition to that put under loan by farmers. Policy aims to minimize effect on grain markets of CCC's disposal of old corn, avoid tendency to depress corn prices. Off-grade corn now being sold is mostly from 1948 crop moving from bin sites and country elevators. Corn is deteriorating or expected to do so after lengthy storage.

Jean W. Smith got \$30 cash award for eliminating unnecessary accounting coding operation and saving 65 man-days.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John W. Clagett, Chief

Investigators in field this week: R. Aiken, F. Freeman, J. Maloney, T. Burke, Iowa; H. Covington, E. Nealon, Nebraska; W. Heuermann, N. Dakota; H. Oace, S. Dakota; M. Ryan, Missouri.

Accountants in field this week: W. Aarnes, J. Hickey, Minnesota; L. Coons, Missouri; A. Gibbon, M. Mestrovich, H. Patton, Iowa; K. King, Nebraska; J. Guinee, Indiana.

Joseph D. Guinee recently added to staff as accountant.

CROP INSURANCE - J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

Mr. Buck at corn insurance sales meeting held at Starved Rock State Park, Illinois, on Tuesday.

Personnel actions taken under authority delegated by the Civil Service Commission were inspected by the Commission this week.

DAIRY

Federal Milk Market Orders

Scheduled hearings to consider changes in marketing orders:-

St. Louis Order-March 2, Melbourne Hotel, St. Louis

Neosho Valley Order (Missouri-Kansas)-March 6, Hotel Besse, Pittsburg,
Kansas

Springfield, Mo. - March 5, Colonial Hotel, Springfield

Consumers Conference of Greater Cincinnati proposed that Cincinnati order be terminated. USDA pointed out that order can be abolished only at producers' request and if order does not result in stable milk supply for market. Hence, Department turned down proposal.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Best buys at wholesale market this week: Cabbage, southern greens, radishes, spinach, turnips and carrots.

Thomas C. Hill, reporter, to Detroit to relieve L. B. Barbee who took ill suddenly.

Regulatory-W. A. Hilgeson, Supervisor

Wilson Miller and Richard Charron, investigators, in Detroit this week; Cleveland and Toledo next week.

Edward Gibson checking on license matters in Georgia; Alabama last week.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Herb Renfro and Earl Biddick to Springfield, Illinois, Thursday to confer with state officials on inspection operations in Illinois.

Closing Fort Knox, Kentucky, inspection office this week; personnel being transferred to Chicago.

Inspections up at Nashville, Tennessee, where Quartermaster Corps opened field buying office to supply army installations, including Ft. Knox.

Marketing Programs - R. E. Keller, In Charge

Discussed marketing agreements program at cherry growers' session of National Canners Association Meeting in Chicago, February 21-25.

GRAIN - Hazen English, Field Supervisor

Washington hearing under Grain Standards Act absolved licensed inspectors from any fault in connection with misgrading six cars of corn shipped from E. Peoria Elevator Company, Peoria, February 19. Corn of inferior quality was loaded in bottom of cars in manner that prevented taking of representative samples of the grain by usual sampling procedures. This caused entire contents of cars to be incorrectly certified as of a higher grade.

John F. Davis, Cedar Rapids supervisor, was visitor to discuss grain inspection problems in his area.

INFORMATION - John Baker, Chief

Heads of all USDA offices in Chicago invited to attend meeting on March 5 with four television performers from Chicago stations: Everett Mitchell, WNBQ; William Ray, WNBQ; Elizabeth Rannells, WGN-TV; George Menard, WBBM-TV.

Baker will attend meeting of Midwest agricultural college editors next week at Ames, Iowa.

Staff preparing kits of information material to go to each new television station in Midwest, informing news editor, farm director, and women's director of services available from PMA. Fifteen new stations scheduled to be on air by April 15.

POULTRY

Inspection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson, Supervisor

Mr. Dolson visiting poultry plants in southern and southwestern Illinois this week.

WASHINGTON APPOINTMENTS

Preston Richards as Assistant Administrator for Commodity Operations; formerly Director of Dairy Branch.

E. M. Norton as Director of Dairy Branch; formerly Deputy Director of Dairy Branch.

WASHINGTON VISITORS TO MIDWEST

Grain Branch - Judson A. Thompson to Chicago and Michigan points in connection with dry bean storage project and related problems; February 23-28. Arnold S. Dahl to Kansas City and other points to confer with PMA Commodity Offices regarding seed operations and policies, March 1 to April 1.

Marketing Facilities Branch - James A. Mixon to Detroit and Chicago in connection with installation of order assembly equipment and try-out of equipment in City Food Company, Detroit, and to attend frozen food industry conference Chicago; February 22 through March 15.

Harold D. Johnson to points in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois (also Maryland, Pennsylvania) to participate in meeting of National Frozen Food Packers in Chicago and confer with truck-trailer manufacturers and motor carriers enroute; February 27 through March 7.

Transportation and Warehousing Branch: H. S. Yohe to Chicago, to meet with various warehousemen and members of trade regarding tariffs of warehousemen in Chicago market; February 24-27.